



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Eastern District of California*

*McGregor W. Scott
United States Attorney*

*501 I Street, Suite 10-100
Sacramento, California 95814*

*916/554-2700
Fax 916/554-2900*

For Immediate Release
April 5, 2005

*Contact: Patty Pontello, 916-554-2706
Available at: www.usdoj.gov/usao/cae/home*

ILLINOIS MAN CONVICTED IN INTERNET FRAUD SCHEME

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that CHARLES EDWARD MURPHY, 51, of Streator, Illinois, admitted to his scheme to defraud women via the internet. Specifically, MURPHY pled guilty to count one count of the seven count felony indictment for making up a scheme to obtain money by false pretenses over wire communications in interstate commerce in violation of section 1343 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Michelle Rodriguez, who prosecuted the case, the indictment charged that between the period of March of 2001 through December 2002, MURPHY devised and participated in a scheme to defraud by soliciting women he met over the internet to wire him money for non-existent and bogus investments. Specifically, MURPHY, an African-American man with a nursing degree, represented to women he met in internet "chat rooms" that he was a young, white male obstetrician-gynecologist. MURPHY convinced his victims, who were both in the Sacramento area and in other regions of the country, to wire him funds to invest in a purported purchase of an MRI machine, in a fuel-oil program, and in a computer scheme.

Today, MURPHY admitted that all of these "investments" were non-existent. MURPHY admitted that he used the funds that he obtained from his investors for his own personal use. In total, MURPHY was able to defraud his investors out of approximately \$61,900.

The matter is set for sentencing before United States District Court Judge Lawrence K. Karlton on October 4, 2005. MURPHY faces a maximum sentence of twenty years in prison, a three-year term of supervised release, and up to a \$250,000 fine, all in addition to a district court order of full restitution to his victims .

###